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## CONCLUSION.

The general principles of disinfection outlined in this circular may be applied for the disinfection of all articles not specifically treated of, and which are similar in character to those considered.

By order of the Board of Health.

MICHAEL C. MURPHY,  
President.

C. GOLDBERMAN,  
Secretary *pro tem*.

[The Board of Health of New York City requires that all infectious and contagious cases shall be reported, and in the crowded districts these cases are to be visited, and a placard placed upon the door, warning visitors not to enter. After the disease is over the Health Officers come and fumigate if the family circumstances are such that they cannot do this themselves. They will also, on request, sterilize or destroy infected bedding. A list of the houses where contagious diseases are reported is prepared daily and sent to all schools, day nurseries, and similar places, or to any one wishing it. A leaflet is also printed in English, Italian, German, or Yiddish giving in very simple language careful information as to the cause and propagation of phthisis, with instructions for disinfection.]

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## MUNICIPAL DISINFECTION IN BERLIN

By REBECCA SHATZ  
Mt. Sinai Hospital Graduate

THE Berlin city ordinances compel disinfection of rooms after they have been occupied by persons suffering from Asiatic cholera, small-pox, diphtheria, typhus, and cerebro-spinal meningitis.

After typhoid, scarlet fever, epidemic dysentery, measles, whooping-cough, and pulmonary tuberculosis disinfection is always advised, but is only compulsory (ordered and supervised by the police department) in certain cases or under certain conditions.

The disinfecting plant occupies a large T-shaped building, so planned and divided that the infected articles are brought in at one court-yard and taken out through another, no disinfected article ever being carried through room or yard through which infected articles must pass. The city authorities send men to disinfect dwelling-rooms; they are fumigated with formalin and ammonia for three and a half hours. Pictures and furniture are washed off with five per cent. carbolic acid solution.

Bedding, clothing, and other movable effects are carried in large closed wagons to the disinfecting stations. In the receiving-room they are wrapped in sheets that have been wet with a five per cent. solution of carbolic, and are then carried to the next room, to be placed upon racks and shoved into the sterilizers. They are then received into a clean room, where they are stored for distribution.

Clothing and small articles are sterilized for ten minutes; feather beds and bedding, for thirty minutes; hair mattresses, thick, compact articles, brooms, and scrub-cloths, for one hour. A different relay of wagons carries the disinfected articles back to the owners on the same day they were removed.

The men who work in the receiving-room must first undress in a room set aside for that purpose and put on their working clothes—white cotton suits, canvas boots, caps for the head, and a moist sponge over the mouth.

When their work is done they undress again in another room and pass into a bath-room, where they take a spray bath, and then go into the room where the street clothes are put on. A laundry-room is provided, where the men wash their working clothes daily.

Men working in the infected parts are allowed no approach or intercourse with those working in the sterile portions of the building.

One room at the station is kept for testing the efficacy of chemicals. Streptococci are placed in drawers, on walls, and in crevices, and the effect of the various chemicals upon them is noted.

Midwives who are attending patients suffering with puerperal fever are compelled by law to come to the disinfecting station, take a bath, and have their clothes and instruments sterilized before attending other cases.

